

*The contention of the two famous Houses,*

*Hum.* My staffe, I noble Henry, my life and all,  
My staffe, I yeelde as willing to be thine,  
As ere thy Noble father made it mine:  
And euen as willing at thy feete I leaue it,  
As others would ambitiously receiue it,  
And long hereafter, when I am dead and gone,  
May honourable peace attend thy throne.

*King.* Vnkle Gloster, stand vp and go in peace,  
No lesse belou'd of vs, then when  
Thou wert Protector ouer this my land.

*Exit Gloster.*

*Queene.* Take vp the staffe, for heere it ought to stand,  
Where should it be, but in King Henries hand?

*Yorke.* Please it your Maiestie, this is the day  
That was appointed for the combating  
Betweene the Armourer and his man, my Lord,  
And they are ready when your Grace doth please.

*King.* Then call them forth, that they may try their rights.

*Enter at one doore the Armourer and his neighbours, drinking to him  
so much that he is drunken, and he enters with a drum before him,  
and his staffe with a sandbag fastened to it, and at the other doore  
his man with a drum and sandbag, and Prentises drinking to him.*

1 Neighbor. Here neighbour Horner, I drinke to you in a cup  
of Sacke; and feare not neighbor, you shall do well enough.

2 Neigh. And here neighbor, here's a cup of Charneco.

3 Neigh. Here's a pot of good double beere, neighbor drinke  
and be merry, and feare not your man.

*Arm.* Let it come, yfaith Ile pledge you all,  
And a figge for Peter.

1 Pren. Here Peter, I drinke to thee, and be not affraid.:

2 Pren. Here Peter, here's a pinte of Claret wine for thee.

3 Pren. And here's a quart for me, and be merry Peter,  
And feare not thy master, fight for credit of the Prentises.

*Peter.* I thanke you all, but Ile drinke no more:  
Heere Robin, and if I dye, heere I giue thee my hammer,  
And Will thou shalt haue my aperne: and heere Tom,

*Take*

*Yorke and Lancaster*

Take all the money that I haue.  
O Lord blesse me I pray God, for I am n  
my master, he hath learn'd so much fence

*Salis.* Come leaue your drinking, and  
Sirra, what's thy name?

*Pet.* Peter forsooth.

*Salis.* Peter: what more?

*Pet.* Thumpe.

*Salis.* Thumpe, then see that thou thu

*Arm.* Here's to thee Neighbour, fill  
before wee fight, looke you, I will tell  
come hither as it were of my mans instig  
an honest man, and Peter a knaue: and f  
downright blowes, as Beuis of South-l  
capart.

*Pet.* Law you now, I told you hee's in

*Alarmer, Peter hits him on the he*

*Arm.* Hold Peter, I confesse, Treaso

*Pet.* O God I giue thee praise.

*Pren.* Ho well done Peter. God saue

*King.* Go take hence that Traitor fro  
For by his death we do perceiue his gui  
And God in iustice hath reueal'd to vs  
The truth and innocence of this poore f  
Which he had thought to haue murder  
Come fellow, follow vs for thy reward.

*Enter Duke Humfrey and his me  
ning cloakes.*

*Hum.* Sirra, what's a clocke?

*Seruing.* Almost ten my Lord.

*Hum.* Then is that wofull houre hard  
That my poore Lady should come by t  
In shamefull penance wandering in the  
Sweet Nell, ill can thy noble minde abr  
The abiect people gazing on thy face,  
With enuious lookes laughing at thy sh  
That erst did follow thy proud Chariot